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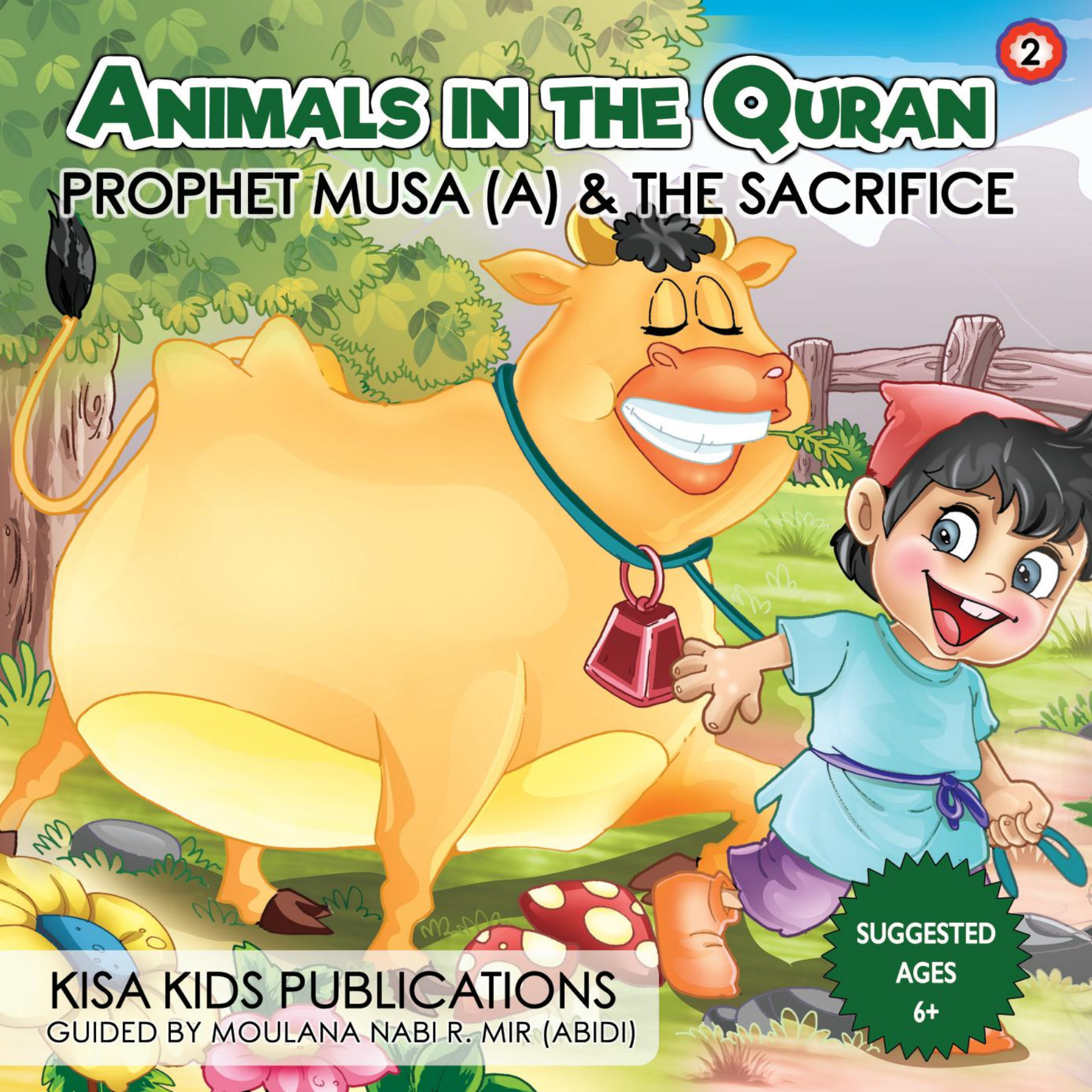
ANIMALS IN THE QURAN

PROPHET MUSA (A) & THE SACRIFICE



SUGGESTED AGES 6+

KISA KIDS PUBLICATIONS

GUIDED BY MOULANA NABI R. MIR (ABIDI)

Disclaimer: Religious texts have ***not*** been translated verbatim so as to meet the developmental and comprehension needs of children.

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Library of Congress Control Number: 2022920320

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to the beloved Imām of our time (ʿaj). May Allah (swt) hasten his reappearance and help us to become his true companions.

Original Author

Brother Alāʾ Jaʿfarī

Acknowledgements

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): On the Day of Resurrection, the ink of the scholars will be weighed up against the blood of the martyrs, and the ink of the scholars will be heavier than the blood of the martyrs.
Nahj al-Faṣāḥah, Saying #3222.

True reward lies with Allah, but we would like to sincerely thank the efforts of Shaykh Salim Yusufali, Sisters Sabika Mithani, Liliana Villalvazo, Sarah Ali, Amna Hussain, Zainab Mithani, Zahra Sabur, Sajeda Merchant, Fathema Abidi, Fatemeh Eslami, Kisae Nazar, Abeda Khimji, Zehra Abbas, Zainab Hussain, and Fatima Hussain. We would especially like to thank Nainawa Publications for their artwork and contributions
May Allah bless them in this world and the next.

Marḥūmīn Dedication

Please recite a Sūrah al-Fātiḥah for the marḥūmīn of the Talebi family

Preface

Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ): Nurture and raise your children in the best way. Raise them with the love of the Prophets and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

Literature is an influential form of media that often shapes the thoughts and views of an entire generation. Therefore, in order to establish an Islamic foundation for the future generations, there is a dire need for compelling Islamic literature. Over the past several years, this need has become increasingly prevalent throughout Islamic centers and schools everywhere. Due to the growing dissonance between parents, children, society, and the teachings of Islam and the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa), this need has become even more pressing. Al-Kisa Foundation, along with its subsidiary, Kisa Kids Publications, was conceived in an effort to help bridge this gap with the guidance of ʿulamāʾ and the help of educators. We would like to make this a communal effort and platform. Therefore, we sincerely welcome constructive feedback and help in any capacity.

The goal of *Animals in the Quran* is to strengthen children's understanding of how Allah is All-Powerful and All-Wise, thus strengthening their tawakkul and reliance. We hope that you and your children enjoy these books and use them as a means to achieve this goal, inshāʾAllāh.

We pray to Allah to give us the strength and tawfīq to perform our duties and responsibilities.

With Duʾās,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

About the Board ʿĀlim

Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi) is a scholar, an educator, a father, and an enthusiast for creating educational infrastructure and Islamic resources for the benefit of the global community. Always wanting to think outside the box by supporting the creation of innovative materials to engage young readers to pick up Islamic books, interact with Qurʾānic games, learn from the Steps to Perfection Curriculum and begin their life long journey of holistic education.

Being a dedicated student and graduate of Darse Khārij from Ḥawzah, Moulana Abidi knows the value of Islamic education. Also, growing up in India while now residing in the United States, he has had the honor to meet with various communities and community leaders, and values the importance of collaboration and working together to optimize potentials and to create open source platforms so information and resources are available and accessible to all.

* * *

You, dear reader, are now part of the Al-Kisa family. Share the word, and join the mission.

2

ANIMALS IN THE QURAN

PROPHET MUSA (A) & THE SACRIFICE

AL-KISA FOUNDATION
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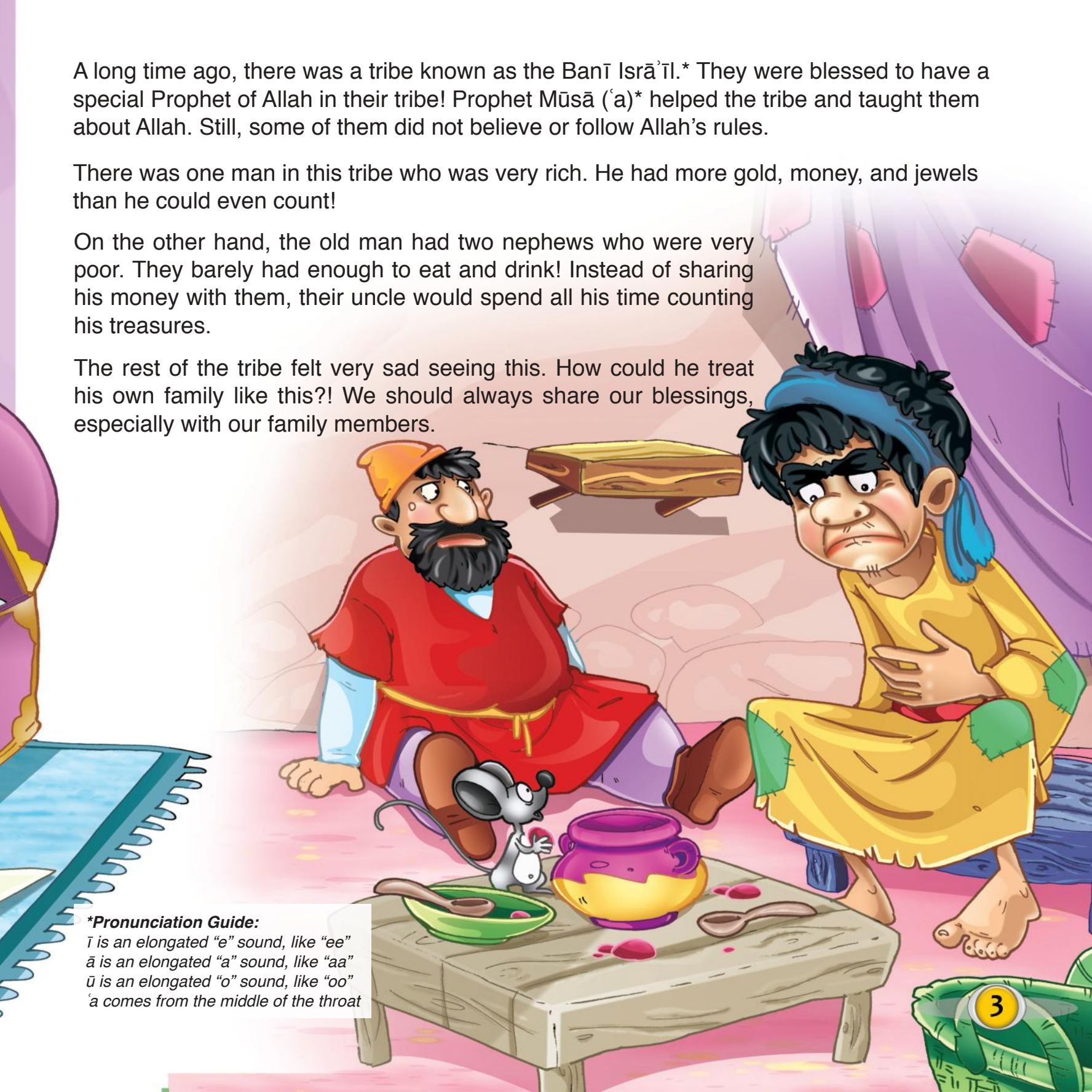
A long time ago, there was a tribe known as the Banī Isrāʾīl.* They were blessed to have a special Prophet of Allah in their tribe! Prophet Mūsā (ʿa)* helped the tribe and taught them about Allah. Still, some of them did not believe or follow Allah's rules.

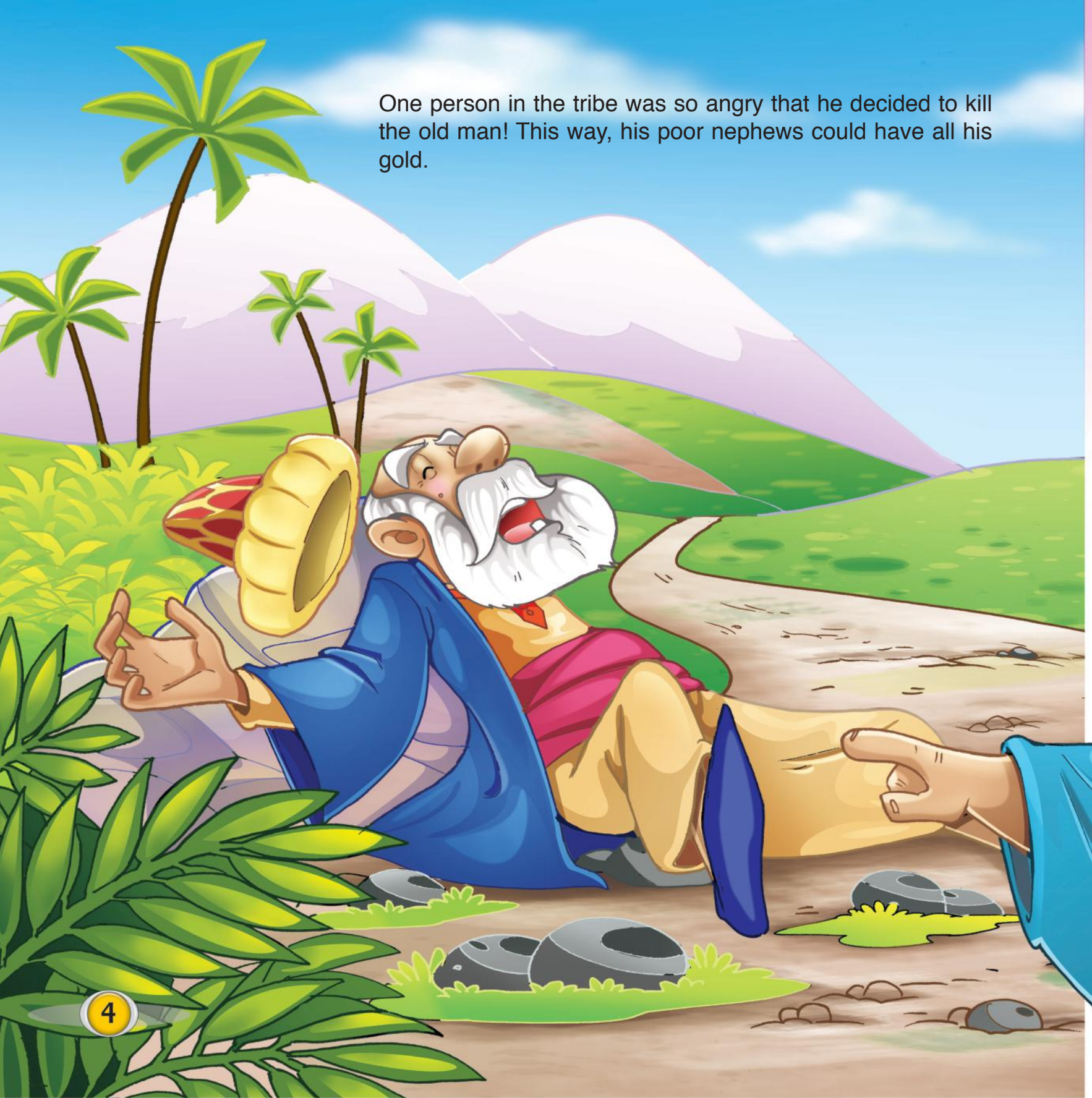
There was one man in this tribe who was very rich. He had more gold, money, and jewels than he could even count!

On the other hand, the old man had two nephews who were very poor. They barely had enough to eat and drink! Instead of sharing his money with them, their uncle would spend all his time counting his treasures.

The rest of the tribe felt very sad seeing this. How could he treat his own family like this?! We should always share our blessings, especially with our family members.



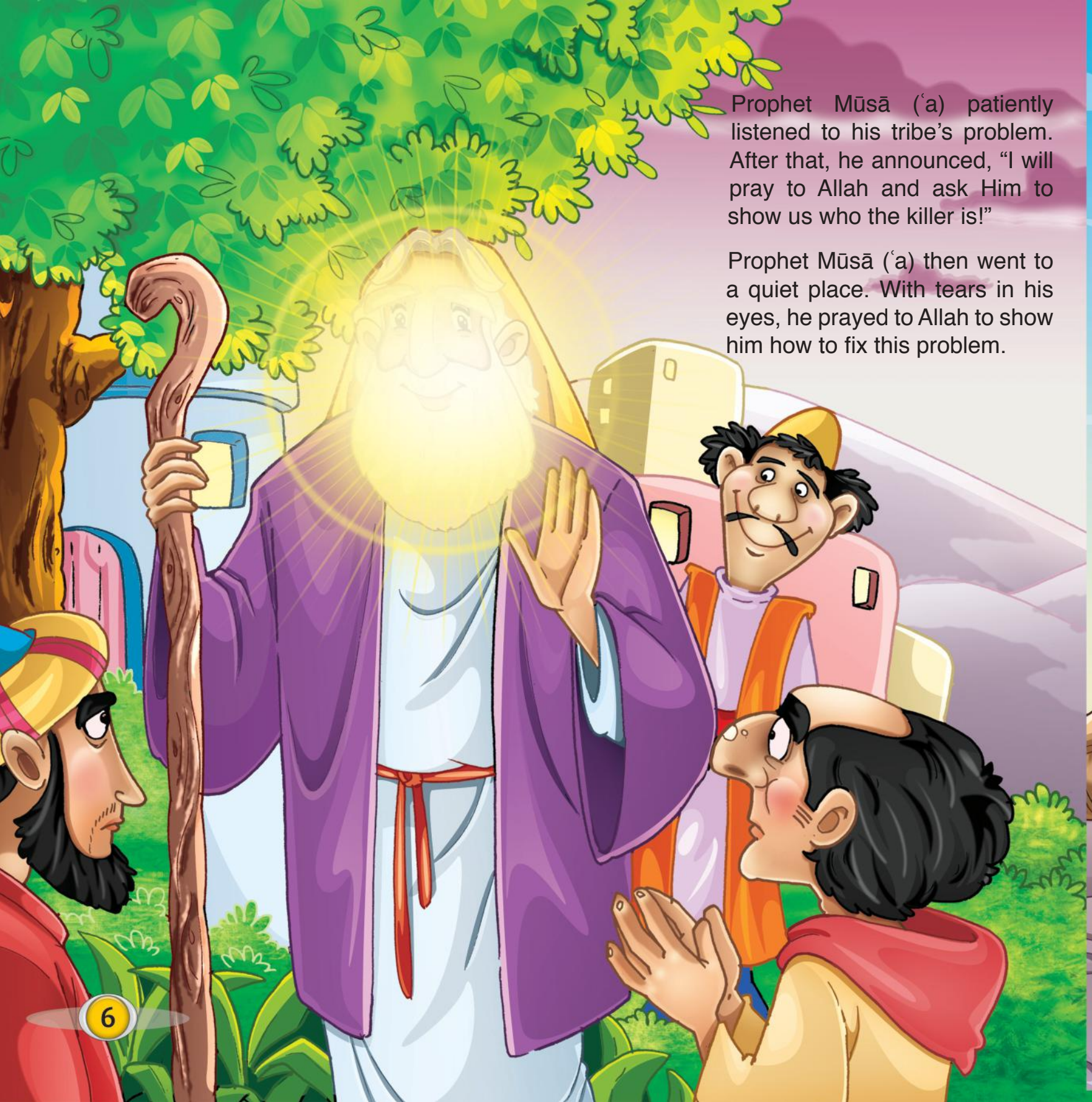
***Pronunciation Guide:**
ī is an elongated "e" sound, like "ee"
ā is an elongated "a" sound, like "aa"
ū is an elongated "o" sound, like "oo"
ʿa comes from the middle of the throat



One person in the tribe was so angry that he decided to kill the old man! This way, his poor nephews could have all his gold.

Early one morning, a traveler was passing through town when he stumbled across the dead body of the old man. Everyone began wondering, *Who killed this man*?! It wasn't long before everyone began accusing each other. The people wouldn't stop arguing! So, they finally decided to ask Prophet Mūsā (ʿa) for help. Of course, Prophet Mūsā (ʿa) knew exactly what to do! *Alḥamdulillāh*!*

***Pronunciation Guide:**
ḥ is a heavy "ha" sound that comes from the middle of the throat



Prophet Mūsā (ʿa) patiently listened to his tribe's problem. After that, he announced, "I will pray to Allah and ask Him to show us who the killer is!"

Prophet Mūsā (ʿa) then went to a quiet place. With tears in his eyes, he prayed to Allah to show him how to fix this problem.

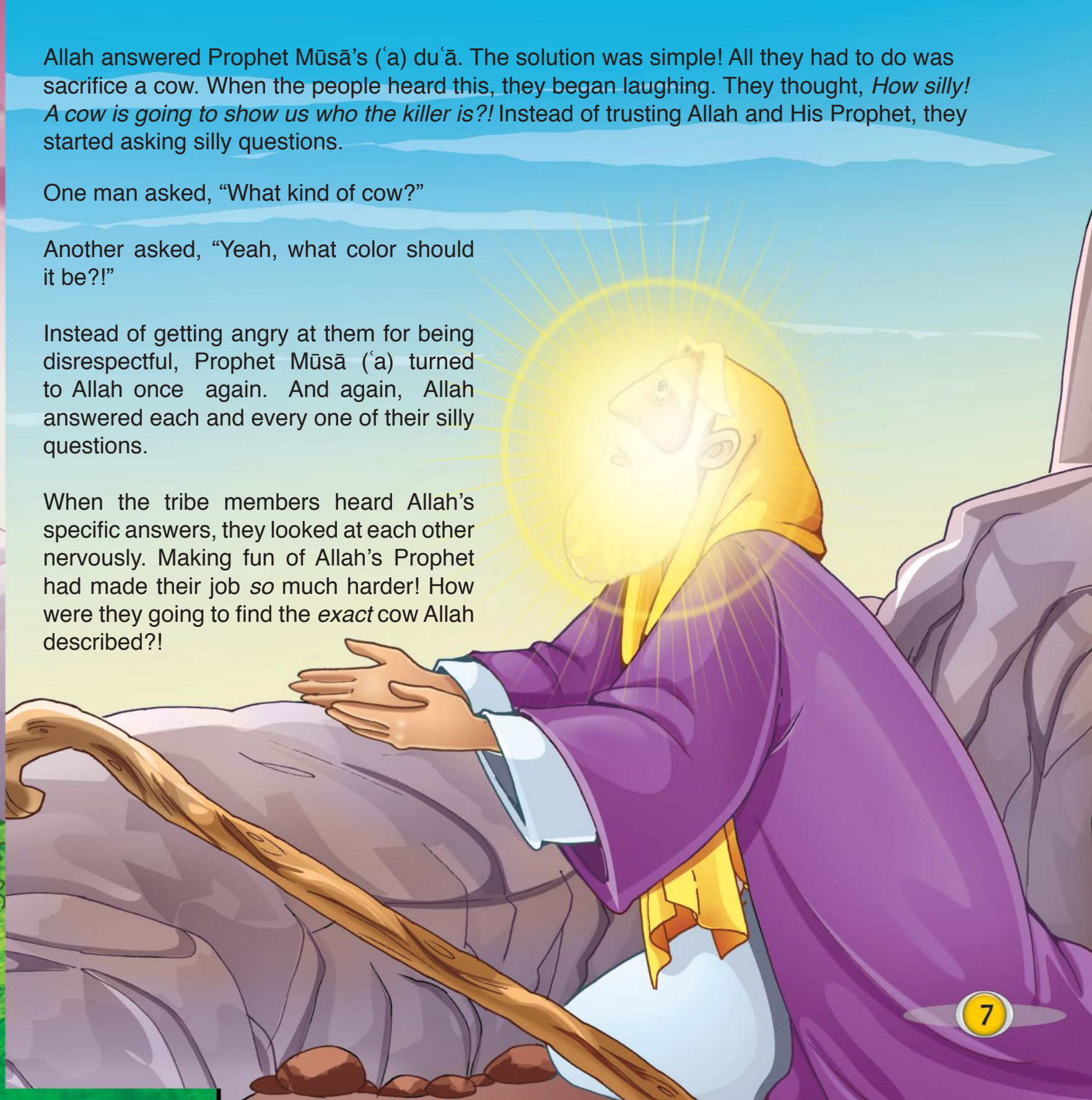
Allah answered Prophet Mūsā's (ʿa) duʿā. The solution was simple! All they had to do was sacrifice a cow. When the people heard this, they began laughing. They thought, *How silly! A cow is going to show us who the killer is?!* Instead of trusting Allah and His Prophet, they started asking silly questions.

One man asked, "What kind of cow?"

Another asked, "Yeah, what color should it be?!"

Instead of getting angry at them for being disrespectful, Prophet Mūsā (ʿa) turned to Allah once again. And again, Allah answered each and every one of their silly questions.

When the tribe members heard Allah's specific answers, they looked at each other nervously. Making fun of Allah's Prophet had made their job *so* much harder! How were they going to find the *exact* cow Allah described?!



After searching far and wide, they finally found a cow that fit the description! It was a beautiful yellow cow at the far end of the city. *Alḥamdulillāh!* But there was one *slight* problem. The little boy who owned this cow loved it very much. He didn't want to lose his favorite cow. The Banī Isrāʾīl begged him.

"We'll give you anything!" they offered.

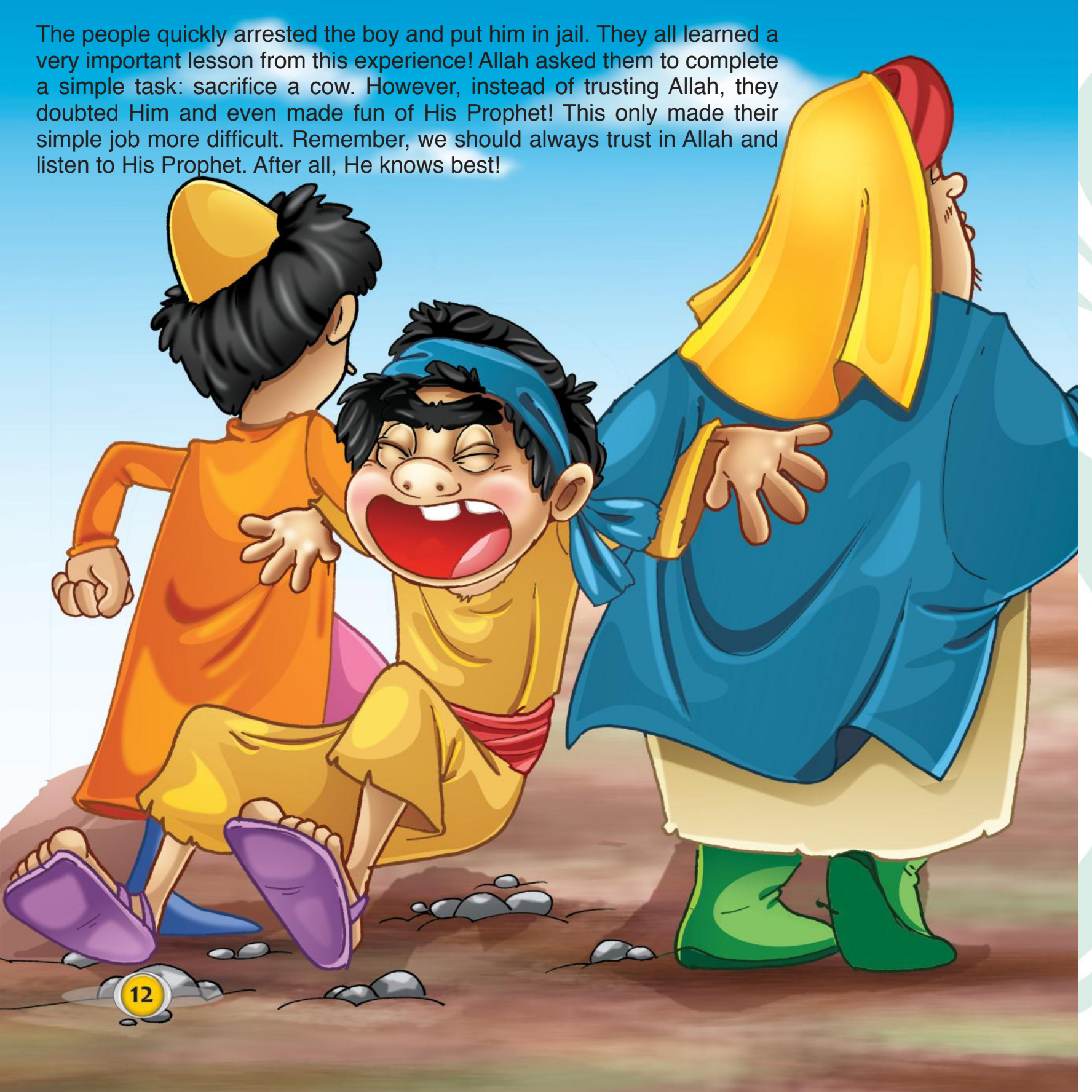
"Anything?" asked the young boy. "Hmm, okay! I will sell you the cow if you pay me as much gold as she weighs!" (And cows weigh a lot!)

The tribe members glanced at each other anxiously. That was a lot of money! But they were so desperate to find the murderer that they had no other choice.

After everyone chipped in, they finally had enough money! What a shame! They had to pay so much money for this cow — only to sacrifice it! If only they had listened to Allah in the first place!

When they got back, Allah ordered Prophet Mūsā (ʿa) to rub the cow's tail against the body of the old man. Everyone watched in awe as Allah miraculously brought the man back to life! He lifted his head, pointed to one of his nephews, and shouted, "This is the boy who killed me!" Then, he lowered his head and died once more. Finally, the problem was solved!

The people quickly arrested the boy and put him in jail. They all learned a very important lesson from this experience! Allah asked them to complete a simple task: sacrifice a cow. However, instead of trusting Allah, they doubted Him and even made fun of His Prophet! This only made their simple job more difficult. Remember, we should always trust in Allah and listen to His Prophet. After all, He knows best!



Family Time

وَإِذْ قَالَ مُوسَىٰ لِقَوْمِهِ إِنَّ اللَّـهَ يَأْمُرُكُمْ أَن تَذْبَحُوا بَقَرَةً ۖ قَالُوا أَتَتَّخِذُنَا هُزُوًا ۖ قَالَ أَعُوذُ بِاللَّـهِ أَنْ أَكُونَ مِنَ الْجَاهِلِينَ

And [remember] when Mūsā said to his people, "Surely, Allah has ordered you all to sacrifice a cow." They asked, "Are you making fun of us?" He said, "I take refuge with Allah from being among the ignorant ones." (2:67)

Dear Parents/Guardians,

When reading and learning about stories from the Qurʾān, it is important for us to reflect upon the lessons they teach us. In order to help your children internalize the lessons from this story, discuss the following questions:

1. Why were the nephews so angry with their uncle?
2. Why were there tears in Prophet Mūsā's (ʿa) eyes when he prayed to Allah?
3. Why did Allah ask the people to find such a specific cow, which was hard to find?
4. What happened when Prophet Mūsā (ʿa) rubbed the cow's tail against the dead man?
5. What lesson can we learn from this story?

Glossary

(ṣ): Peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muḥammad and his family

(swt): All glory belongs to God, the Glorified and Exalted

(ʿa): Peace and blessings be upon him/her

(ʿaj): May God hasten his reappearance

Ahl al-Bayt: Divinely appointed family members of Prophet Muḥammad (ṣ)

al-Fātiḥah: The first *sūrah* that is commonly recited and sent as a gift of prayer for the deceased

Alḥamdulillāh: All praise is for God

Allah: The Arabic term for God, a culmination of all His holy names and titles

Duʿā: Supplication; a deep connection and communication between an individual and God

Imām: A divinely appointed leader, sometimes refers to a spiritual leader

InshāʾAllāh: God-willing

Marḥūmīn: Someone who has passed away

Qurʾān: The holy book of Muslims

Sūrah: A chapter of the Qurʾān

Tawakkul: Reliance and trust in God

Tawfīq: Divine blessings from God that give one the opportunity and ability to thrive towards success

ʿUlamāʾ: Scholars

Transliteration Chart

Arabic terms in this book have been transliterated according to the following guidelines*:

ء	a, i, or u (initial form)
ء	ʾ (medial or final form)
ا	a
ب	b
ت	t
ث	th
ج	j
ح	ḥ
خ	kh
د	d
ذ	dh
ر	r
ز	z
س	s
ش	sh
ص	ṣ
ض	ḍ
ط	ṭ
ظ	ẓ
ع	ʿ
غ	gh
ف	f
ق	q
ك	k
ل	l
م	m
ن	n
ه	h
و	w
ي	y

ـَ	a
ـِ	i
ـُ	u
ـّ	double letter
آ / ـَا / ىٰ	ā
ـِي	ī
ـُو	ū

*Please note that due to limitations, the transliteration is not 100% accurate in capturing tajwīd rules.

In the time of Bani Israil, there lived an old man who was murdered by a member of his tribe. The only way they could uncover the murderer was by turning to Prophet Musa (a), of course. Read *Prophet Musa (a) and the Sacrifice* to discover the importance of trusting in Allah and His Prophets for guidance.

AL-KISA FOUNDATION
UNDER THE CLOAK OF GUIDANCE AND MERCY

ISBN 9781683121770
50399 >
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